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Your essential daily news | MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2016

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WALKING ON WATER

Standup paddleboarding is making waves in Ottawa

metroNEWS

Maïa Mercure, 23, left, and Jane Leakey, 20, at the Trailhead Paddle Shack demo centre in Carp on Friday. HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

Community rallies behind injured teen

ORLEANS

Collision with parked car leads to impaired driving charge

Joe Lofaro
Metro | Ottawa

The community has rallied behind Ottawa entrepreneur Amélie Chartrand so she can care for her teenaged daughter Camille, seriously injured after a sedan collided with her parked car in her driveway last week.

Camille, 18, was sitting in her Smart Car on Viseneau Drive in Orleans just after 6:30 a.m. May 29 when a sedan collided with the car, sending a light pole crashing down on top of it, said Ottawa police. Two days later, police charged Tanner Paine, 23, with impaired driving causing bodily harm, driving over the legal blood-alcohol limit, and dangerous operation of a motor vehicle causing bodily harm.

Camille's mom, Amélie, had just opened a new furniture and craft store called Cre8tive Junktion one month before the devastating collision, but now the business is on hold while she cares for her daughter in hospital.

Cheryl Wells, co-founder of Wells-Garbe Productions, organized a silent auction and raffle on Saturday to help cover Amélie's basic business expenses so that she can be with her daughter.

Camille remains in critical condition and is now responding to her mom's voice, according to Wells.

Wells said Camille's story must have resonated with the community since there was a steady stream of people bidding on items from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday in front of the Cre8tive Junktion store on Bearbrook Road.

"It was the community's way of letting her know that her store is valued, she is valued, her family is valued."

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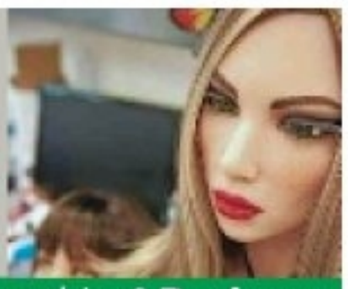

Your essential daily news

Sex, love and robots — but what about the ethics? **Business**

A little Hawaii in Ottawa

LEISURE

Pair opens up shop as paddleboard trend takes off

Haley Ritchie
Metro | Ottawa

Walk on water, do yoga on water, play polo on water and cardio on water — it's all fair game in Ottawa thanks to the growing popularity of standup paddleboards.

Standup Paddleboarding — a cross between surfing and paddling — has come a long way from its start in tropical Hawaii to cold capital Ottawa.

Yet local fans of the sport say the city's plentiful waterways make it a great place to practise.

Josh La Porta and Laura Zak, who run Ottawa SUP close to Billings Bridge, chose Ottawa to open their store after working at a surf shop in Costa Rica.

"We realized that paddleboarding was very applicable to Canadian waterways, with all the rivers where surfing is obviously not," said La Porta.

"Once we realized that, we could come back to Canada and start up here."

"You get a sense of tranquility on the water. It's not rushed, it's not dangerous and the boards are extremely buoyant in the water so you feel safe out there," he said.

"You tend to explore the waterways a lot more and you have the ease of getting in and out of the water without getting into a canoe or kayak."

SUP (standup paddleboard) paddlers stand on a broad, lightweight board that is reasonably easy to balance on but still provides a core workout. The person, standing tall on the board, propels himself or herself with a long paddle.

Before 2006, few people had an interest in the sport, according to data from Google trends. Since then, three dedicated businesses have started offering lessons in Ottawa and the Sport and Social Club, Ottawa River Canoe Club and Rideau Canoe Club have added SUP to their programming.

"On Mooney's Bay the water is very flat, there is no current, so it's very nice for that kind of paddling," said Hector Carranco, executive director of the Rideau Canoe Club.

"The canal is more urban, but from Hog's Back to Black Rapids you have trees on both sides of the water. It makes it a very nice paddle," said Carranco.

The flat, easy-to-balance board means there are many options beyond a slow and serene paddle down the canal.

SUP classes offered at dedicated rental outlets and city canoe clubs are increasingly diverse, including early morning "floating yoga" on top of the water and cardio classes.

"People get their fitness for the day on the water instead of running or biking," said Carranco. "To be standing on the water is a really cool feeling. It's just something different."

> **"To be standing on the water is a really cool feeling. It's just something different.**
> Hector Carranco

For those with a competitive edge there is SUP racing in the city (usually involving a specialized board) and new this year, local retailer Trailhead Paddle Shack is offering drop-in SUP water polo.

The young sport of SUP polo involves teams of three people on special boards competing to score inside an inflatable area, complete with two nets.

Paddles are specially designed to allow the catching and passing of a ball.

Standing upright on the board while playing is just as much a challenge as scoring.

Elly Dumouchel, 26 (left) and Maïa Mercure, 23, compete for the ball in a game of SUP water polo at the Trailhead Paddle Shack demo centre in Carp on Friday afternoon. The outdoors retailer is trying to start an Ottawa league.
HALEY RITCHIE/METRO

WHERE TO GO

For a calm and leisurely paddle...
Head to Ottawa SUP on the weekend for a beginner group lesson.
Time: Saturday noon and 2 p.m. Arrive at least 10 minutes before lesson.
Location: Ottawa SUP, 1314 Bank Street.
Cost: $40 for group lessons, $100 to $160 for private lessons.

Take your yoga practice on to the water...
The Ottawa Sport and Social Club is offering two yoga classes on Tuesday and Thursday evenings starting from July to August.
Time: 6 p.m. to 7:15 p.m., either from Tuesday, July 12 to Aug. 30, or from Thursday, July 14, to Sept. 1.
Location: Classes will either take place at Bates Island, Jacques Cartier Park or Lac Leamy.
Cost: $230 for eight weeks of classes.

Challenge yourself with SUP polo...
By signing up with Trailhead Paddle Shack's summer league. If enough people register the league will begin June 14th and will become the second in Ontario.
Time: Tuesday evenings for seven weeks, practice 4:30-5:30 p.m. and games at 6 p.m.
Location: Trailhead Paddle Shack demo centre, 3119 Carp Rd.
Cost: $100 individuals, $400 per team.

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Pot-vocate fights on after losing case

LEGISLATION

Ottawa man argues for the right to smoke up in public

Emma Jackson
Metro | Ottawa

Local marijuana advocate Russell Barth has lost his human rights case against Mayor Jim Watson, but his fight for medical marijuana rights is far from over.

Barth complained to the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal after Watson was quoted last spring saying licensed medical marijuana users should "use that product on your property in your own house" instead of in public places.

Watson made the comments after a Vanier vapour lounge, Buzz On, opened on Montreal Road.

The tribunal found Watson didn't say anything discriminatory toward medical marijuana users, and didn't restrict Barth's right to access a facility.

Despite the loss — which Barth said he expected — he's looking ahead to a battle with the provincial government as it prepares to expand its smoke-free laws.

The government announced in March it plans to ban smoking of any kind — including e-cigarettes and medical marijuana — where regular smoking is already prohibited.

Ottawa's board of health had been looking at similar rules but put its plans on hold to see what the province passes first.

Barth said he plans to fight any legislation that restricts a sick person from medicating when they need to.

"The government's being too heavy handed with it," he said.

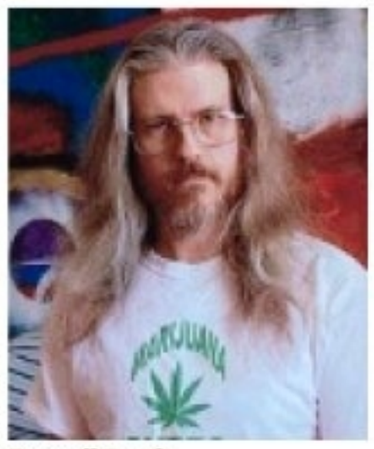
His wife, for example, has severe epilepsy. If she has a seizure on a bus platform, Barth said she should be allowed to medicate.

He likened it to the right of someone with a service dog to bring their animal into public spaces, even though others may not like it.

"I would rather live in a society where his right to bring his dog on the bus trumps my right to not be near the allergens I don't want to be near," Barth said.

Instead of using enforcement to stop medical marijuana users from inconveniencing others, Barth said the province should ramp up its educational campaigns to promote common courtesy when vaping.

"That kind of stuff does more than enforcement and regulation," he said.



Russell Barth
COURTESY CHRISTINE LOWE

5 THINGS TO WATCH FOR THIS WEEK AT CITY HALL & BEYOND

Lucy Scholey
Metro | Ottawa

This may be your only chance to watch Christine Sinclair represent the Canadian Women's National Team in Ottawa.

1 Dine for Fort McMurray

Ottawa Senators player Chris Phillips, a Fort Mac native, and Mayor Jim Watson are hosting a charity dinner for the Alberta community on June 8 at the Aberdeen Pavilion. The theme is country music, pizza and beer and tickets cost $80. Fort McMurray residents are starting to return to their homes after forest fires ravaged the community.

2 New building, old estate

A parking lot in a historic Glebe estate may turn into a mixed-use five-storey building. On Thursday, city staff will ask the built heritage sub-committee to sign off on a retail-residential building at 667 Bank Street. The design includes a manufactured stone and brick façade, with metal panels on the top storey and a chamfered corner (kind of like the building at Elgin and Queen). The property sits in the Clemow Estate, once home to 19th-century Senator Francis Clemow.

3 Heritage for HMCS Bytown

The city is taking another swing at designating the HMCS Bytown as a heritage building. The two-and-a-half storey red brick building at 78 Lisgar St. was built in 1895 and later served as the home to Bank of Ottawa founder Charles Magee. His son, Frederick, sold the building in 1943 and it has served as a naval officers' mess since then. The city initially tried to designate the building in 2014, but the owner appealed the decision. A revised version will be before the built heritage sub-committee on Thursday.

4 School opposes heritage label

The City of Ottawa wants to grant an old Overbrook elementary school a heritage label, despite the owner's opposition. Built in 1916, the two-storey Overbrook Public School is among the few buildings left from that era. It's an example of the Collegiate Gothic style, which is a variation of the style of the Oxford and Cambridge campuses in England. Today, the building houses Vinci School, a private elementary school also based in Los Angeles, Beijing and Alexandria, Va.

5 Cheers for Christine Sinclair

Ottawa soccer fans can finally watch their Canadian Women's National Team on home turf. Christine Sinclair and her teammates will kick off against the Brazil team at TD Place on June 7 as part of the Road to Rio lead-up to the 2016 Olympic Games. Last year, Ottawa hosted the FIFA Women's World Cup, but the Canadian team did not play here. There are still tickets available at canadasoccer.com/tickets.

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HEALTH

Neilson chocolate milk being recalled

Dairy company Saputo Inc. is recalling bags of Neilson brand partly skimmed chocolate milk due to possible Listeria contamination.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency says the milk was sold in four litre bags with a best before date of June 1, 2016 in Ontario and Quebec.

The agency says the recall was triggered by findings during an investigation into a foodborne illness outbreak.

It says there have been reported illness that may be associated with the consumption of the product. Further lab testing is underway to confirm the link. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SYMPTOMS

Food contaminated with listeria can cause vomiting, nausea, persistent fever, muscle aches, severe headaches and neck stiffness.

IN BRIEF

Some Kashi bars recalled over Listeria concerns

Certain Kashi trail mix bars are being recalled due to possible Listeria contamination. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency says the products should not be consumed. Kashi Trail Mix Whole Grain Bars, sold in packs of six with best before dates between January and February 2017, and Kashi Whole Grain Bars sold in packs of 18 with best before dates between September and November 2016 are being recalled. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bank Street closed down

CONSTRUCTION

Downtown corridor off limits as part of road work

Emma Jackson
Metro | Ottawa

Bank Street will be closed for three months between Wellington and Albert streets as part of the city's ongoing Queen Street reconstruction.

Southbound lanes are now closed entirely until Sept. 5, but one northbound lane will stay open to let drivers connect to Wellington, the city said.

Queen Street is already in the midst of an extreme makeover, to prepare for the hordes of pedestrians expected to use the street once light rail opens in 2018.

The new train system's downtown tunnel runs under the street, and two of three underground stations will spit their passengers onto Queen.

It's currently closed to westbound traffic between Bay and Metcalfe streets for a complete reconstruction.

When it's done in 2018 it will boast wider sidewalks, bike lanes and landscaping, the city says.

The Bank Street closure is the latest in a series of intersection disruptions along the corridor.

Lane closures are already in place on O'Connor and Lyon streets where they hit Queen.

Both are expected to last much longer than the Bank Street closure — into 2017 — as they're tied to light rail station construction.

A portion of Bank Street is closed until Sept. 5 as part of the Queen Street reconstruction. EMMA JACKSON / METRO

TRANSIT

Kanata LRT a few years away: Blais

The city's on track to get more than expected for its stage two LRT plans, but transit commission chairman Stephen Blais warned against earmarking any savings just yet.

"Until we know exactly what the feds have on offer … I don't think anyone should raise anyone's expectations," said Blais.

The city could come out up to $500 million ahead if the federal Liberals follow their provincial counterparts' example and offer up more than the city asked for in LRT funding.

The province announced Friday it will chip in the requested $1 billion for Ottawa's $3 billion light rail extension, plus an extra $158 million toward two wish list items not included in the budget: an airport link and an extension to Trim Road in Orleans.

The federal government has said they'll pay up to 50 per cent of major transit projects, instead of the usual third, potentially leaving the city with some extra cash to spend on other transportation priorities.

Several councillors dearly want to see a light rail line to Kanata, which isn't planned until after 2031.

Last June, Kanata South Coun. Allan Hubley led the charge to study pushing up the timeline.

And last week, three councillors — including Kanata North's Marianne Wilkinson — asked the province to fund the link instead of widening Highway 417.

But that's not necessarily the best way to spend found money, said Blais.

For one thing, the city hasn't even done an environmental assessment yet.

"That is the first place we need to start," Blais said. "That will give us a sense of where and how it would go, and how much it might cost."

Extra federal funding could be used toward the environmental assessment, if the rules allow, Blais said, but right now there's no concrete funding plan to get the process started.

EMMA JACKSON/METRO
WITH FILES FROM LUCY SCHOLEY

Transit chair Stephen Blais.
METRO FILE PHOTO

IN BRIEF

Doug Thompson hopes to be first Carleton MPP

Former Osgoode councillor Doug Thompson will seek the Progressive Conservative nomination for Carleton in 2018.

The Nepean-Carleton riding will be split in the next election. Incumbent MPP Lisa MacLeod has said she'll run in the more suburban Nepean, leaving Carleton open.

The new riding includes Stittsville, Richmond, Greely and Manotick.

EMMA JACKSON/METRO

CHEO telethon raises whopping $8 million

The Ottawa community helped the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario raise a record-breaking $8 million over the weekend for its 33rd annual telethon.

Donors raised a total of $8,013,771 from 7 p.m. Saturday to 7 p.m. Sunday for this year's event, which was themed around superheroes.

Money raised from the event goes toward research and equipment at CHEO. METRO

ENVIRONMENT

Feds monitoring Russian rocket debris

The federal government says a Russian rocket that upset Inuit groups over its potential to pollute Arctic waters with toxic fuel has launched.

A spokesman for the federal public safety department says the rocket blasted off Saturday morning.

Kevin Miller says the government monitored the launch and re-entry of debris closely.

In an email he said no debris had been observed falling on Canadian territory as of Sunday morning.

A stage of the Russian satellite-launching rocket was expected to fall into Baffin Bay between Ellesmere Island and Greenland outside Canadian territorial waters, but within seas over which Canada has economic control.

Published reports from experts on the Russian space program suggest it's normal for about 10 per cent of the fuel in the main stage to remain unburned, and an Arctic contaminant specialist at the University of Manitoba says the hydrazine fuel is highly toxic and is known to persist in water.

Questions that were emailed to Public Safety Canada about where the debris from Saturday's launch fell were not immediately answered.

The area of concern in Baffin Bay is heavily hunted and travelled by Inuit from nearly a dozen communities in Canada and Greenland.

A commission of Inuit in Canada and Greenland was preparing a formal protest to Russia over the launch, and the Canadian government has said it has told Russia it wants more advance information about such launches.

A spokesman for the Russian embassy had said last week that all the fuel should have burned up by the time the rocket stage splashed down.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies vows to make province-wide race data public. ISTOCK

Ontario to collect race data

CHILDREN'S AID

Information will determine the services that are needed

Children's aid societies in Ontario have agreed to collect data on the race of children and families they serve, a move that comes after mounting outrage about the high number of black and aboriginal kids in care.

Mary Ballantyne, CEO of the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies, said societies will have a "consistent approach" in place within a year to gather the race-based data.

"We need to have this data," Ballantyne said. "It will help us figure out what kinds of services need to be provided to what kinds of kids."

The goal is to ensure that families and children served across the province are being treated equitably, she added. "It is a top priority."

Ballantyne vowed to make the province-wide race data public as soon as it is collected and analyzed.

The societies are making the commitment after an ongoing Torstar News Service investigation found 42 per cent of children and youth in the care of the Children's Aid Society of Toronto have at least one parent who is black. Only 8 per cent of the city's under-18 population is black.

Black community leaders have complained for years that their children are taken into care in disproportionate numbers. They've been pushing the government to order the collection of race-based data, arguing that the child protection system is biased against black families.

Everton Gordon, interim CEO of the Jamaican Canadian Association, called the societies' commitment to collect race-based data a step in the right direction. He insists, however, that the statistics be used to trigger programs and reforms that will reduce the number of black kids in care.

"It's more than just a numbers game," Gordon said in an interview. "It speaks to a system that has embedded biases that produce disproportionality for different marginalized groups."

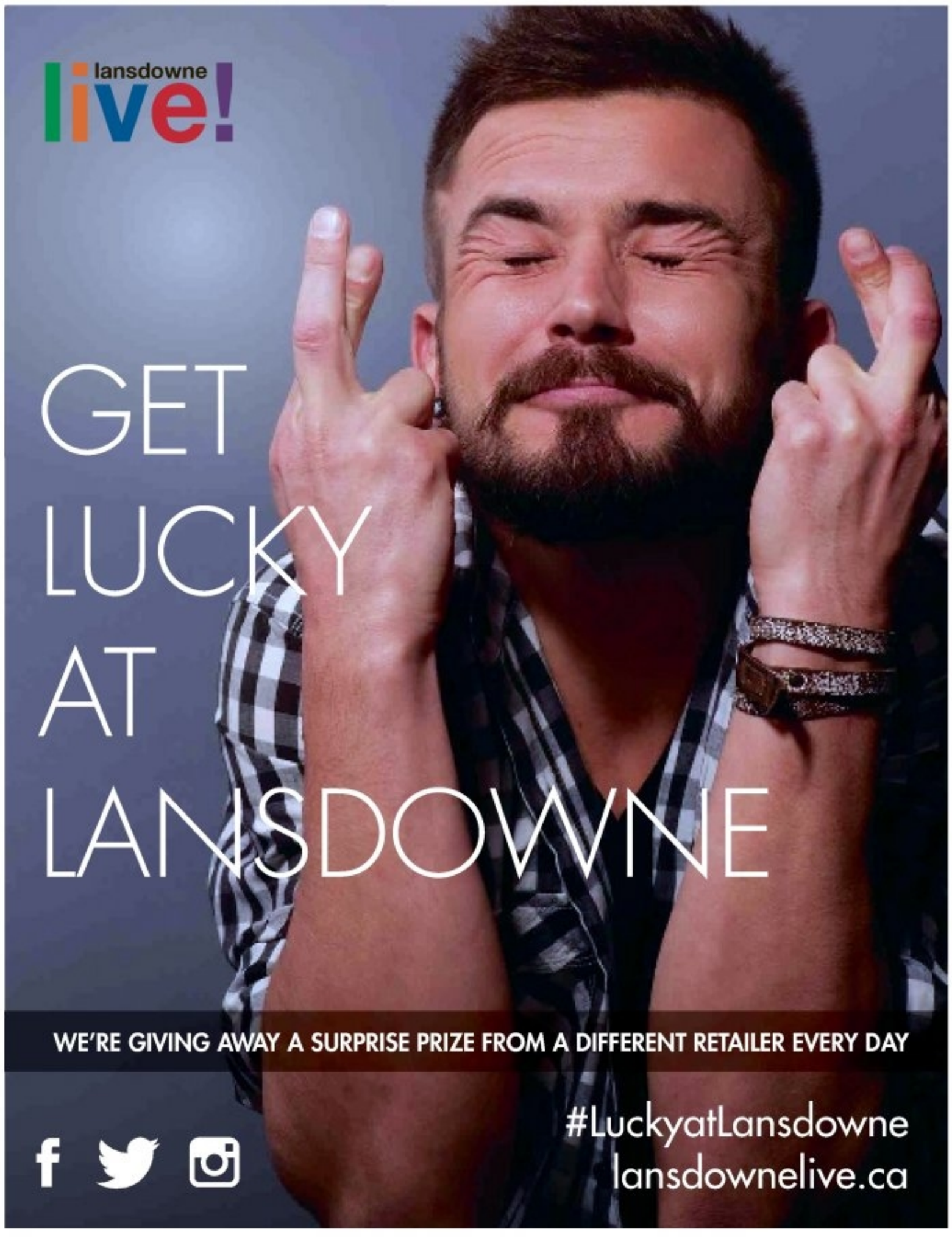
Ontario Minister of Children and Youth Services Tracy MacCharles has expressed concern about the number of black kids in care, but has stopped short of ordering societies to collect race-based statistics.

Data collection is currently a messy patchwork. Some societies note the racial backgrounds of their children, and track how they're doing, while others don't. The ministry is setting up a central database to standardize the collection of child protection data, but full implementation is years away, and race-based data is so far not part of the program.

> **It speaks to a system that has embedded biases.**
> Everton Gordon

The new push for data collection is part of a sweeping reform agenda recently adopted by children's aid societies. Changes include standardized training and accreditation of child protection workers and amalgamation of services and agencies.

Queen's Park is also promising a major overhaul of the child protection system after a report released in May sharply criticized the government for failing to ensure that vulnerable children are getting high quality care. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Gathering votes for C-14

POLITICS

Trudeau let his caucus vote freely on assisted dying

Doug Eyolfson did not love the physician-assisted dying bill at first, but he ended up supporting it.

The Winnipeg emergency room doctor and Liberal MP was concerned the Trudeau government's proposed legislation would not allow patients to decide in advance they would like to end their lives with the help of a physician once they reached a certain point.

"It's something that I would personally want for myself and something I would like to see, at some point, provided to patients as an option," Eyolfson said.

The deeply personal played a major role in the decisions of individual Liberals when it came to their votes on Bill C-14, the federal government's response to the Supreme Court ruling that did away with the ban on physician-assisted suicide.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau kept his promise to give his caucus a free vote on this matter of conscience, while ensuring his Liberal government avoided embarrassment on a major piece of legislation which could end up being a part of its legacy.

The political victory could be short-lived, as C-14 is getting a serious grilling in the far-less-predictable Senate, but the moves to quell opposition debate in the House of Commons and the lengthy discussions with caucus offer a glimpse at how the government will handle other thorny issues it will face during its mandate.

CHIEF WHIP

Andrew Leslie, the chief government whip, said not only did he have to keep track of whether Liberal MPs were close enough to make it to the House of Commons for a vote on short notice, he also had to gauge how they were feeling and thinking on any given day, never certain until each MP voted.

A senior government source acknowledged that the key was to help those in caucus who felt the bill did not go far enough to understand that the cabinet took a cautious approach, because it would be easier to expand a program later than to restrict one that was seen to have gone too far.

There were late-night information sessions, one-on-one conversations with Justice Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould or Health Minister Jane Philpott and telephone calls to those sitting on the fence or showing signs of shifting sides.

Eyolfson said it was Philpott who personally made the case to him why the government chose to keep the question of advance requests out of the bill, even though it meant ignoring a major recommendation from the special joint committee the Liberals struck to provide input.

He said she explained to him that the Netherlands is the only jurisdiction that allows advance requests for patients who are not comatose and research has shown families and doctors are hesitant to actually comply with them.

"Once that part was explained to me, it made sense as a prudent measure," said Eyolfson. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks during the annual Press Gallery Dinner. ALL PHOTOS THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sophie Gregoire-Trudeau jokes on stage.

Tom Mulcair literally dropped the mic. Literally.

POLITICAL COMEDY

Leaders crack wise at Press Gallery dinner

Federal party leaders put down their swords to celebrate those who wield the pens and microphones Saturday night.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, interim Opposition Conservative Leader Rona Ambrose and NDP Leader Tom Mulcair all spoke at a dinner honouring 150 years of the parliamentary press gallery.

None missed an opportunity for digs at themselves, each other and the reporters they gathered to celebrate.

And neither did Trudeau's wife, Sophie Gregoire-Trudeau.

In reference to recent coverage that she needs more staff, she called four members of Trudeau's inner circle to the stage at the Museum of History and had them unveil a yoga mat.

She then balanced herself on her arms, legs up in the air, telling her husband that was how it was done — a dig at a photo of him doing a similar move that's been widely circulated online.

> "I will miss his leadership, his good advice. I will not miss the wedgies. Justin Trudeau, on Barack Obama

Justin Trudeau also poked fun at another political counterpart — U.S. President Barack Obama.

At the recent White House Correspondents Dinner, Obama had cracked a joke at Trudeau's expense.

"In fact, somebody recently said to me, Mr. President, you are so yesterday; Justin Trudeau has completely replaced you — he's so handsome, he's so charming, he's the future. And I said, Justin, just give it a rest."

Trudeau's response: He'll miss him.

"There's been a lot of talk about my bromance with President Barack Obama, how I look up to him, how I have so much to learn from him. And I'm like, Barack, you are absolutely right. Thank you for pointing it out, again."

"I will miss his leadership, his good advice. I will not miss the wedgies."

Another leader whose departure was noted: former prime minister Stephen Harper.

Ambrose, currently leading the Tories, made several jokes at his expense, noting his aversion to the press — Harper never attended the dinner while serving as prime minister.

In offering up suggestions for new slogans for the current Conservatives, Ambrose suggested "the bad man is gone."

On his way out — and choosing to hold nothing back — was Mulcair, who declared he was different than the others because he no longer cares.

After a speech laden with hits at pollsters, various media outlets and himself, he drew to a close.

"I have a lot more here but I was just informed in Edmonton that I have to go," he said.

He then dropped a microphone on the stage and declared "Mulcair out." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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ECONOMY

Swiss vote no to basic income

Swiss voters overwhelmingly rejected a proposal that would have guaranteed everyone in the Alpine nation an unconditional basic income, according to projections published Sunday by public broadcaster SRF1.

The plan could have seen people in this wealthy nation of 8 million people receive about 2,500 Swiss francs ($2,560) per month — enough to cover their basic needs.

Proponents argued that a basic income would free people from meaningless toil and allow them to pursue more productive or creative goals in life. Critics said the plan would explode the budget and encourage idleness, which appears to have convinced voters.

Based on a partial count of results from 19 Swiss cantons (states), the gfs.bern polling group calculated that 78 per cent of voters opposed the measure against 22 per cent in favour.

The Swiss government advised voters to reject the proposal put forward by left-wing campaigners who collected the necessary 100,000 signatures to force a vote on the issue. But the idea has won over some economists, who say it could give everybody the same chances in life.

Salaried workers who earned more than basic income would have received no extra money, while children would have received one-quarter of the total for adults.

The unconditional basic income proposal was one of five measures up for decision nationwide Sunday. Proposals to reform publicly owned companies and financing of transport routes was rejected, while voters backed plans to simplify the application procedures for asylum-seekers and another that will allow screening of embryos before they are implanted in the womb. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Iraqi forces secure Daesh stronghold in Fallujah

MIDDLE EAST

Extremists also losing grasp in Syria

Iraqi forces secured the southern edge of Daesh's stronghold of Fallujah on Sunday, two weeks after the launch of an operation to recapture the city, the Iraqi special forces commander overseeing the operation said.

Iraqi special forces, also known as its counterterrorism forces, have secured the largely agricultural southern neighbourhood of Naymiyah under cover of U.S.-led coalition airstrikes, Lt. Gen. Abdel Wahab al-Saadi said. Special forces are now poised to enter the main city, al-Saadi said.

The Fallujah operation coincides with a twin offensive on Daesh-strongholds in neighbouring Syria. Syrian Kurdish forces are advancing on Manbij, a Daesh-held city controlling the supply route between the Turkish border and the town of Raqqa, the militants' de facto capital. At the same time, Syrian government troops are advancing on Raqqa from the south.

The slow-moving Iraqi operation was announced in May. An array of troops including Iraqi military divisions, the federal police and the largely Shiite militia groups, known as the Popular Mobilization Forces, had cleared Daesh from the majority of Fallujah's suburbs.

On Monday, Iraq's elite special forces began pushing into the city centre, but they have faced stiff resistance as Fallujah has been under Daesh control for more than two years, and the militants have been able to erect complex defences.

Tall dirt berms dot the dusty fields to the city's south. A single column of counterterrorism Humvees snaked up toward a row of low lying houses that mark the beginning of the main city.

"VIBED! VIBED!" shouted an Iraqi air commander from a small mobile base. Using an acronym for a car bomb, the Iraqi special forces officer called to Australian coalition forces over a hand-held radio. Moments later, a plume of white, then black smoke appeared on the horizon. Commanders at the scene said the explosion was created by a coalition rocket destroying the incoming car bomb.

"We are expecting many more," once inside the city's more urban neighbourhoods, al-Saadi said. Fallujah is one of the last strongholds of Daesh in Iraq. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FATALITY

A top Syrian Kurdish commander died Sunday, several days after sustaining injuries during a U.S.-backed campaign to unseat Daesh from its de facto Syrian capital, Raqqa. Abu Layla, who commanded a brigade inside the predominantly Kurdish Syrian Democratic Forces, was hit by Daesh sniper fire near Manbij, a key stronghold that controls the supply route between the Turkish border and Raqqa.

Abdul Rahman Ismail, an Iraqi soldier who has been targeted by Daesh extremists who destroyed his house two years ago, is reunited with his family after they fled their town, as displaced Iraqi families gather outside a military camp outside Fallujah. KHALID MOHAMMED/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EVACUATION

Challenges remain in California brush fire

Some 5,000 people were evacuated from the brush fire near Los Angeles, in the upscale city of Calabasas. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Authorities cautiously lifted some evacuation orders, but they warned serious challenges remained Sunday as crews in jagged terrain protected homes and worked to stop the progress of a brush fire that torched the populated hills northwest of Los Angeles.

Firefighters took advantage of cooler temperatures and calmer winds as aircraft made water drops along the eastern and southern edges of the blaze, which was held to just over 500 acres, Los Angeles County Deputy Fire Chief John Tripp said.

He said it was "our No. 1 priority to get those two flanks contained," adding that the fire was hung up on the mid-slope of steep canyons, making a direct attack difficult.

"The fire is on the side of a mountain, it's not on any road, and we are trying to get firefighters up there," Tripp said at a morning news conference.

The fire was 30 per cent contained, and residents of the prosperous and semi-rural area of Calabasas were being allowed back into their homes, many of which were without electricity. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Fire sets off explosions at Sri Lanka army camp

A fire set off explosions at an army camp near Sri Lanka's capital on Sunday evening, killing one soldier and injuring another, officials said.

After the fire broke out at the Salawa army camp, it spread to an ammunition dump, setting off explosions, said military spokesman Brig. Jayanath Jayaweera. He said personnel from the army and the air force were putting out the fire. Jayaweera said it was not yet known what caused the fire. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Peruvians vote

Peruvians chose between two conservative candidates in a tight presidential election Sunday, with two exit polls suggesting that a former World Bank economist would eke out a victory over the daughter of imprisoned ex-President Alberto Fujimori. A third poll gave Fujimori a narrow lead. The vote pits Pedro Pablo Kuczynski against Keiko Fujimori, and the result will be largely seen as a referendum on the legacy of Alberto Fujimori's iron-handed rule in the 1990s. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Robot sex, love and ethics

TECHNOLOGY

Advancement in robotics raising ethical questions

She's the perfect woman: 34-24-34, compliant and agreeable, an enjoyable conversationalist and lacking any traits that could be considered a flaw — including rejection.

That's because she's a machine.

Robots designed to satisfy sexual desires are close to transcending fantasy to become reality thanks to rapid advancements in artificial intelligence, computing that allows machines to mimic human affects and high-tech sensors and materials.

The technology has so far yet to cross the "uncanny valley" — the wide gulf from creepy to sexy sparked by almost-but-not-quite real humanoid robots.

They're essentially rubber bodies with motors and some software; more like the love doll Bianca from Lars and The Real Girl than emotionally intelligent gynoid Ava from Ex Machina.

But sex robots are already raising ethical, legal and moral questions of consent, sexism, human biases and what our desire for them says about human psychology.

The debate over them highlights one of the more controversial aspects of the increasingly social nature of our interactions with robots as they move from factories into our homes and someday, our bedrooms.

"How we treat robots — it's a mirror of our own psychology in a way," said Kate Darling, an expert in robot ethics at MIT's Media Lab.

Darling is fascinated by our strange desire to anthropomorphize, or attribute human agency to machines, and engage with them in a social way. She studies human empathy for robots through the lens of violence toward them.

"The interesting thing is not the robots, it's how robots reveal things about our own behaviour and psychology that we're only just learning — including the question of whether sex robots are going to be a healthy thing or unhealthy thing for people."

The Realbotix factory, where some of the world's first sex robots are being developed. ABYSS CREATIONS/PHOENIX STUDIOS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Sex robot company True Companion says thousands of people have paid upwards of $7,000 for pre-orders of Roxxxy, "the world's first sex robot," programmed to learn an owner's preferences. However, it remains unclear whether any have actually been produced.

Elsewhere in the race to be first to market, Real Doll is developing Realbotix, a high-end silicone doll with artificial intelligence. It plans to release prototypes this year with sales slated for 2017.

However, there's also an organized campaign to ban sex robots over a lack of critical examination of questions about the potential harms and inequalities exacerbated by the new sex objects.

Sinziana Gutiu, a lawyer who authored a chapter in Robot Law on ethics and sexbots called The Roboticization of Consent believes users could be alienated by rendering them less able to form human relationships and that they could erode the need for consent in male-female sex.

The lack of consent and heightened control in robots is problematic, she said, and could further objectify and dehumanize real women and children.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Sex robots are raising questions of consent, sexism and human psychology. ABYSS CREATIONS/PHOENIX STUDIOS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Monday, June 6, 2016

URBAN ETIQUETTE ELLEN VANSTONE

THE RULES: WEDDINGS

As the summer-wedding wave prepares to crest, it's time to write down the most important of the many unwritten rules meant to ensure that this sexist, outdated, tacky tradition goes off as well as can be hoped for.

As June unfolds, and another batch of blushing brides and grooms pursue their hopelessly romantic, and also hopeless, dream of a perfect wedding, herewith are a few guest-etiquette basics. As always, the point is to be considerate, and this goes double for people who are getting married. For the attendees, keep in mind this is the one time normal, well-adjusted people are allowed to play out their dumbest, most outdated, sexist, tasteless, delusional fantasies. So take a deep breath, shut down your judgmental cortex — and let them go nuts.

Travel and accommodation. If the ceremony is taking place in the couple's hometown, it's up to you to get yourself there whether you live next door or on another continent. If it's a "destination wedding" set in an exotic location far from anyone's home, and if the couple (or their parents) are filthy rich, you might reasonably expect to be put up at the destination's resort, or ashram or mountain aerie. Alas, it's more common these days for guests to pay their own way, so if you can't afford it, do not feel obliged to go. Whether you want to honestly state your reasons or concoct a tactful (i.e., believable) excuse is up to you. And, though you may resent their de facto exclusion of less wealthy guests such as yourself, proper etiquette dictates you must still send a gift.

What to wear. If the bride is wearing virginal white, and you want to appear even more virginal, by all means show up in a long white gown. But it's more considerate to let her have her day, however false the advertising might be. If you wear a fancy dress, and you want to be extra considerate, find out what colour the bridesmaids are wearing so you can avoid that hue, too. If you're at all confused about the dress code, or your hosts are from a vastly different culture than your own, simply ask ahead of time what kind of attire is appropriate. Otherwise, a simple dress, summer suit or crisp shirt should be fine.

As every moviegoer knows, people are constantly having sex at weddings.

Speeches. If you're giving a speech, try not to be too drunk. And please do not tell "amusing" stories about the bride or groom's sexual history. Or anyone else's for that matter. If you're being subjected to endless speeches, drink up and shut up. Heckling is strictly verboten at weddings, no matter how boring or offensive the speechifiers may be.

Sit where you're told. Studies (mine) show that 47 per cent of wedding guests are dissatisfied with where they're sitting. In 99 per cent of cases, however, the seating plan is created without any conscious agenda to insult you personally. Unless you're eating off a crate in the kitchen with the household pets, suck it up.

Gifts. The basic rule is that you have up to a year to produce a gift — which is handy if you're certain the couple won't last that long. As for money versus actually bought-and-wrapped presents, see the advice at the top: It's their rodeo, their rules — just go with it.

Food. A vegetarian option is pretty much de rigueur these days. But if you're vegan with gluten allergies or any other moral or gut-related sensitivities, you might want to discreetly smuggle in your own seaweed rollups or whatever you eat to stay alive.

Illicit sex. As every moviegoer knows, people are constantly having sex at weddings, usually with the wrong people, which can lead to mixing with murderers (The Godfather) or yet more marriage (Wedding Crashers). Note that this behaviour is not mandatory — unless you're a bridesmaid (kidding!). Just a little outdated, sexist, tasteless humour to get you in the mood for your next nuptial event.

Need advice? Email Ellen:
scene@metronews.ca

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

Staying in touch after your friends move to Planet Baby

More than ever before, friends are people in faraway places.

Not exclusively, maybe not even perpetually (the older I get, the more stories I hear of people moving "home," as if to underline that building a life on your own can eventually strain).

Some of my beloved friends remain overseas, or over the Rockies. And yet I've never felt so distant as when they become pregnant.

Single or married women of my ilk carry on much the same, no matter where we live. We work, we date, we run marathons or join road-bike racing teams, we move for a new job or get married. We inch forward in our careers or start new ones, go on holidays — even buy a home.

That — affording a house — is treated like a miracle, but of course it has nothing on creating a life. And as a never-pregnant, never-nursing, never-rearing woman, I simply can't relate.

One pregnant friend living in Geneva, weeks from her due date, props her body sideways on Skype to show me her belly — stretched and round, the only visual cue I've had to all that is about to change her life, and has already changed her body.

Another friend in B.C. is unexpectedly pregnant — carrying a child who'll be among the first cohort of failed-app babies, born of the dubious claim that there's an app even for birth control. Already, she's undergone a kaleidoscope of emotions for which I have no reference, along with physical changes: the nausea, fatigue, tenderness. Both friends will give birth and become mothers, and I will be cheering them on without any sense of the right words to say.

The worst part isn't wanting to relate, though, it's wanting to be useful. To babysit so your friend can grab a shower or something similarly self-indulgent. To swing by for a chat so they don't feel isolated. To experience a bit of their life, so they don't have to explain everything.

I have a niece and nephew in another city, so I already know the pain of missing out on a childhood. But my brother is older, and I almost expect him to chart territory I haven't yet, to be in a way unrelatable because he's up ahead.

Friendships, on the other hand, are in part built on sharing key life moments. It's never a perfect, parallel trajectory, but it's often close enough. Not so, anymore. Not now.

There's no solution to all this. The pain of distance can't always be ameliorated. You can't always be the friend you want to be. That's just the reality of babies in faraway places.

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Getting girls excited about tech

EDUCATION

Randi Zuckerberg hopes to pique interest with kids' show Dot

Megan Haynes
For Metro Canada

It's no secret that there aren't a lot of women participating in the science, tech, engineering and math (STEM) trades. But a new series on CBC set to air this fall hopes to encourage more girls to take an interest.

Based on the book by Randi Zuckerberg, Dot follows the adventures of the eponymous character, a little girl obsessed with technology.

Zuckerberg comes by her love of tech honestly: she was an early employee at Facebook (yes, she's Mark's sister), before founding her own marketing and media firm (she also did a quick detour to Broadway). We caught up with her to chat about what's keeping women out of STEM, and how a kids' show can help change that.

There seems to be a lot of vitriol targeted against women online, especially those who are vocal or active in the STEM space – what do you believe drives that negativity?

I think anytime you have only a few people in a space, they have giant bullseyes on them. So one thing we can do is up the numbers of women who are in tech to diffuse the focus away from the small number of women that are very prominent.

Do you think digital bullying has stymied female participation in the STEM field?

Digital bullying has had a huge impact, which is why I've spoken out against anonymity online. Now, of course there are always situations where people have to be anonymous online. But I think generally people who hide behind anonymity say cruel and terrible things that they would never say if they looked someone in the eye or if they had their real name or image attached to it.

We need to start encouraging more sites to (use) real-name identity. All the studies show people behave better when they're accountable for what they say.

The Prime Minister's wife, Sophie Gregoire-Trudeau said she needed more help as a mother and a public figure — and there was a lot of anger directed at her. When it comes to the tech space, do women get punished when they ask for help?

Well bravo to her! Nobody does anything in this world without a lot of help. Not CEOs or parents. There is a double edge sword: there's a lot of pressure on women to be the perfect mom, and great at business. But we need more women out there who are saying "I want to do it all, and I need help to do it all."

Taking you back to Dot, how will a children's show help change the conversation?

A lot of studies I've read show that by age seven or eight we start to lose girls in STEM fields. At that point, they've learned society says girls don't go into those fields. That boys have years of experience building things.

Media and pop culture play a very powerful role in changing the conversation. It starts with getting young girls excited and interested in tech and not losing them to another direction. In the series, there's a lot of powerful women. Dot is this funky, energetic, crazy entrepreneurial spirit. Her mom is an entrepreneur who is teaching Dot to use a 3D printer. Her mom is really techy, and you see her involved with Dot, but also with her own business.

Going off the screen, one of the things that drew me to this project is how many women are involved in the making of this series: On the Jim Henson team, the whole project is led by women. At (Toronto-based animation studio) Industrial Brothers, I was blown away by how many directors of animation are women. I think we're walking the walk both on screen and off screen.

Randi Zuckerberg wants to change the conversation when it comes to girls and technology.

FREDERICK M. BROWN/GETTY IMAGES/FILE

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Money management should involve everyone

HOUSEHOLD

It may be easy for one person to handle the budget, but...

Gail Vaz-Oxlade
For Metro Canada

Make sure to involve other members of your household in the finances in case something should happen to you. ISTOCK

If you're the only person in your house responsible for maintaining the family budget and managing the money, you're not doing yourself or your partner any favours.

Yes, being in control feels good. Yes, knowing that things will get done when they are supposed to makes it easier to sleep at night.

But...

What if you got sick and couldn't manage the money anymore? What if you died?

Would that be the best time for your mate to be learning everything you did and how it has to be done? Doesn't it make more sense for your pal to get involved in the family finances while you're able to guide and encourage?

While you may think your filing system is intuitive because you've gone to great pains to organize it and put things in a logical order, the first time your partner looks at it they'll be lost.

Create a list of what's what and where it is so that there is a road map your honey can follow. There's a good chance that you're counting on your awesome memory for a lot of what you do. Putting it on paper will help you to identify where there may be steps you may have overlooked describing. If you get your bills electronically, does your sweetheart have access to your email? If you go into hospital to have your herniated disc repaired, will she be able to pay the phone bill on time? Does he know where all the bank accounts are? How about the investments? Does she have a list of all the bills that are paid, automatically or manually, so she knows how much money is going out?

Just knowing where everything is won't help a bit if your partner doesn't have access, so make sure he knows what the passwords on accounts are.

If you've been paying all the bills though your personal account, this is a good time to set up a joint account to which you both have access for household bill payments so you can share a password. Then you can (and you should) keep your personal information private.

While you're going over your system, take some time to explain why you do the things you do. Just saying, "do it this way" doesn't give buddy any insight into why your system works and he may be tempted to mess with it. So explain yourself.

For more money advice, visit Gail's website at gailvazoxlade.com

NEW BOOK

How Not Buying It will help your kids

From educational toys to bigger houses, sports to private school, parents are spending money on all the wrong things, says economist and journalist Brett Graff.

Graff, who goes by the moniker "The Home Economist," makes this case in her new book Not Buying It: Stop Overspending and Start Raising Happier, Healthier, More Successful Kids, which points out that less is more in almost every area that parents are bleeding cash.

Her findings? We're going broke buying stuff that has the opposite effect that we intend.

What inspired you to write the book?

We're spending out of fear and competition. We're terrified that if we say no to a particular expense, that we're saying no to education and no to safety. Economists assume that we're rational shoppers, but that is not the case, particularly if we happen to be parents. We are spending money to make our kids dumber, to make our kids less safe, to make them less healthy and to make them more vulnerable to narcissism, depression and failure.

How so?

For example, there are no (U.S.) federal guidelines for stamping the word "education" on a toy box. Expensive toys promote instant gratification and anything with a screen for babies under two promotes language delays and sleep disturbances. What the American Academy of Pediatrics says is kids who are left alone as early as four months old become problem solvers and creative thinkers. Researchers found that kids who play with blocks later scored better on tests for counting, measurement and judgment, and they scored better on math operations. Blocks cost $13. The latest iPad with every educational app and access to Mandarin lessons costs $900.

Everywhere you turn there's a neighbour putting a kid in another enriching activity that you hadn't even thought of. How does competition between the parents factor in here?

While we're spending this money to make our kids dumber, we feel very superior while we're doing it. "No, no, I don't have time today to go to the park — we have to go to Kumon class." Doctors have stood up in front of Congress and testified about our children's right to play. Play improves cognitive development, it fosters creativity, it helps with children's social skills, which improve the brain's executive function.

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The new Quebec City

Some Quebec City neighbourhoods are brimming with change and enjoying a rejuvenation thanks to local entrepreneurs and restaurateurs. A gourmet getaway awaits in the provincial capital.

Nouvo Saint-Roch

This former industrial district got a major facelift in the last few years, with old, obsolete plants and buildings repurposed into trendy eateries and a thriving cultural community.

CONTRIBUTED

Le Cercle
(228 Saint-Joseph East)

One of the district's cultural pillars, Le Cercle delivers a culinary and cultural experience that is out of the ordinary. Food-wise, it's all about sustainable, creative, eclectic fare. Entertainment-wise, there's an impressive lineup featuring more than 300 shows and events a year.

Deux22
(222 Saint-Joseph East)

Eatery. Bar. Shop. Three words that sum up a visit to Deux22. Enjoy a handmade burrito served by the Mexican specialty restaurant, then shop for original clothes, jewellery and footwear. The shop keeps regular store hours, while the restaurant closes at 3 a.m.

Limoilou

The young families moving in are transforming the face of this neighbourhood, which has grown increasingly popular thanks to the charming boutiques and restaurants opening up. Set a course for 3rd Avenue, the main commercial artery.

La Folle Fourchette
(986 3rd Avenue)

This kitchen store and cooking school, the brainchild of two energetic young women, offers sustainable kitchen accessories and classes ranging from Japanese cuisine to pasta making to chef's workshops.

CONTRIBUTED

Nektar Caféologue
(1001 3rd Avenue)

Seasoned staff members and well-credentialed baristas work hand in hand to meet the needs of the most discriminating coffee lovers. Order a coffee on site or buy exceptional coffee beans to enjoy at home.

Old Quebec City

There's more to this UNESCO World Heritage Site than the Petit-Champlain district and the Plains of Abraham; explore the numerous restaurants that feature local products.

CONTRIBUTED

Batinse
(1200 Saint-Jean)

A champion of authentic regional cuisine, this is where to find traditional Quebec meals reinvented. Be sure to try the "Batinse Shepherd's Pie" — a classic dish reimagined with pulled beef, Cajun-spiced sweet corn and garlic confit mashed potatoes.

Légende
(255 Saint-Paul)

This chic gastronomic restaurant with a bistro-priced menu is a course in Quebec culinary history. Order or share a wapiti carpaccio, and enjoy it in a boreal forest-themed setting along with a glass of Quebec wine.

Transit

The train is the best way to travel to Quebec City. Enjoy a pleasant trip featuring friendly service and free Wi-Fi, and arrive in Lower Town Quebec City at the beautiful Gare du Palais train station, a historic monument recalling the architecture of Château Frontenac.

Next stop

Don't miss VIA Rail's next urban getaway to Kingston in the June 20 Metro issue. All aboard for an itinerary that will showcase the city's historic charm.

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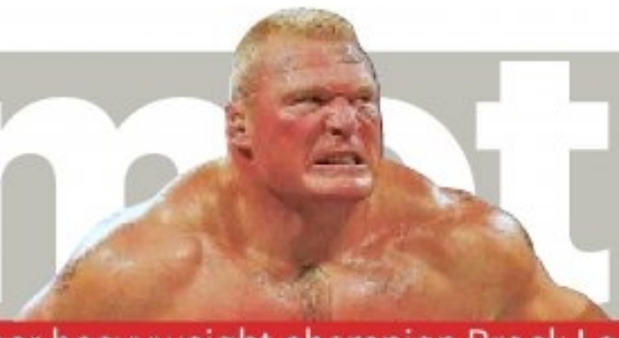


Former heavyweight champion Brock Lesnar will return to mixed martial arts with a bout at UFC 200 in Las Vegas next month

UFC BRILLIANT BISPING TAKES TITLE WITH 1ST-ROUND KO
Briton Michael Bisping won the UFC middleweight championship with a stunning first-round knockout of Luke Rockhold on Saturday night at UFC 199. Dominick Cruz also defended his UFC bantamweight title Saturday with a unanimous decision victory over rival Urijah Faber. JAYNE KAMIN-ONCEA/GETTY IMAGES

BOXING

Ali remembered in hometown Louisville

Muhammad Ali's younger brother wept, swayed to hymns and hugged anyone he could reach. He raised his hands to the sky, eyes closed, surrounded by congregants at the church where their father once worshipped.

Rahaman Ali took centre stage at the two-hour, high-energy service at King Solomon Missionary Baptist Church, sitting in a front-row pew with his wife, Caroline. The church is not far from the little pink house in Louisville's west end where the Ali brothers grew up.

It was one of several emotional remembrances Sunday as the city joined together to mourn its most celebrated son, the Louisville Lip. Later this week, politicians, celebrities and fans from around the globe are expected for a Friday memorial service that Ali planned himself with the intent of making it open to all.

At his father's church, the congregation stood in tribute, prayed for the former three-time heavyweight champion and his family and even dug into their pockets, filling a collection plate for Rahaman and his wife as a show of support.

Muhammad Ali GETTY IMAGES

"There is no greater man that has done more for this city than Muhammad Ali," said the church's assistant pastor, Charles Elliott III, drawing a round of "amens" and prolonged applause from the congregation. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Canada's men's volleyball team ends Olympic wait
Canada beat China 3-2 on Sunday to secure the final Olympic berth at a men's volleyball qualification tournament.

Canada finished fourth with a 4-3 record and clinched its first Olympic berth in 24 years when world champions Poland defeated Australia 3-0. Australia finished in fifth place with a 3-4 record. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

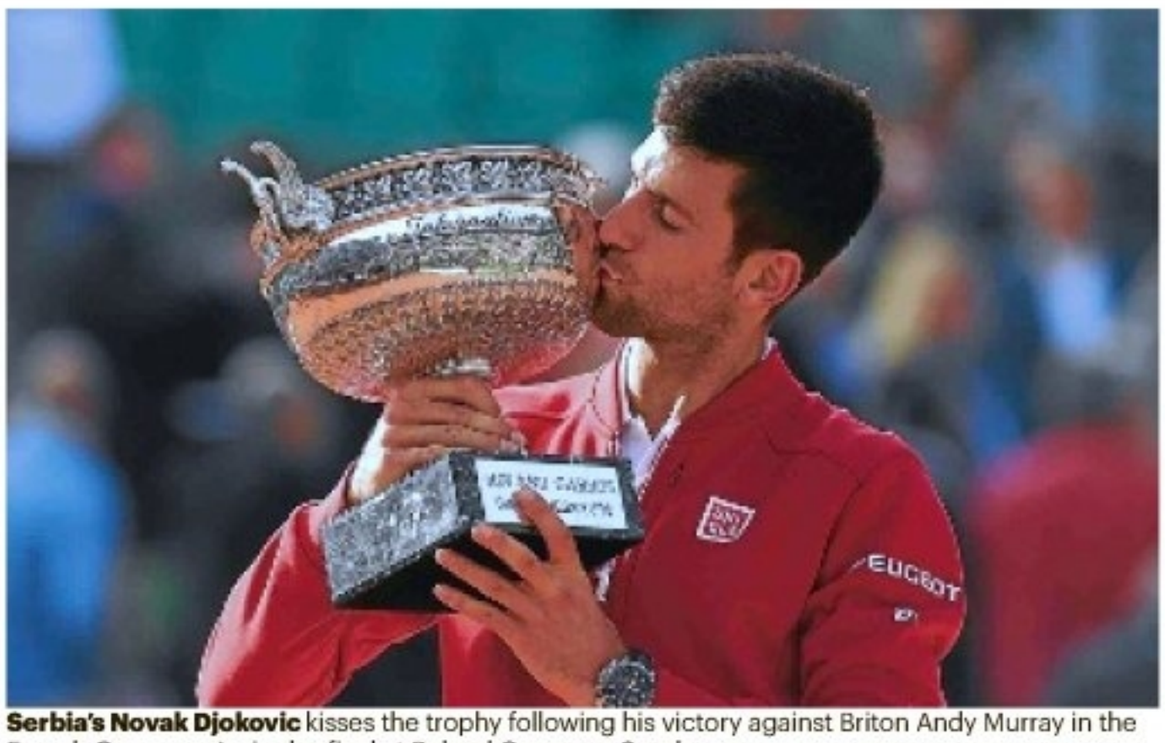
Estrada leads Jays to victory
Marco Estrada took a no-hitter into the eighth inning for the third time in a year before it was broken up by Chris Young's home run with one out, and the Toronto Blue Jays held off the Boston Red Sox 5-4 on Sunday.

Jose Bautista opened the game with a home run. Edwin Encarnacion added a two-run shot, and Darwin Barney and Russell Martin each had a solo homer. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Djokovic captures elusive French title

TENNIS

Beating Murray means Serb now holds all Grand Slam titles



Serbia's Novak Djokovic kisses the trophy following his victory against Briton Andy Murray in the French Open men's singles final at Roland Garros on Sunday. DENNIS GROMBKOWSKI/GETTY IMAGES

A French Open champion at long last, and the first man in nearly a half-century to win four consecutive major championships, Novak Djokovic grabbed a racket and etched a heart in the very red clay that had given him such heartache in the past.

Then, when he finally was handed the La Coupe des Mousquetaires — the one trophy he truly yearned for, the one he needed to complete a career Grand Slam — Djokovic held it overhead, his eyes shut, before kissing it, exhaling and smiling broadly.

In his 12th appearance at Roland Garros, and fourth final, the top-seeded Djokovic earned that elusive title with a 3-6, 6-1, 6-2, 6-4 victory over No. 2 Andy Murray on Sunday, buoyed by a supportive crowd that repeatedly chanted his nickname, "No-le!"

"It's really a very special moment," Djokovic said. "Perhaps the greatest moment of my career." Since losing the 2015 final in Paris, Djokovic has won 28 Grand Slam matches in a row, from Wimbledon and the U.S. Open last year, to the Australian Open in January, and now, after quite a wait, the French Open.

"This is something that is so rare in tennis," said Murray, who is now 2-8 in Grand Slam finals. "It's going to take a long time for it to happen again."

The last man to hold all four major titles simultaneously was Rod Laver in 1969, when he earned a calendar-year Grand Slam. Djokovic now can set his sights on that ultimate tennis achievement; he's the first man since Jim Courier in 1992 to get halfway.

Djokovic, a 29-year-old from Serbia, owns six titles from the Australian Open, three from Wimbledon and two from the U.S. Open for a Grand Slam total of 12. Among men, only Roger Federer (with 17), Rafael Nadal (14) and Pete Sampras (14) have more. Djokovic is also one of eight men with at least one championship at each major.

Meanwhile, Garbine Muguruza won her first Grand Slam title by beating defending champion Serena Williams 7-5, 6-4 in the women's final on Saturday, denying the American her record-equaling 22nd major trophy. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CANADA STAR

Canadian tennis phenom Felix Auger-Aliassime was just one point away from his first Grand Slam on Sunday in the French Open boys singles final.

The 15-year-old from Montreal was unable to accomplish the feat, falling 1-6, 6-3, 8-6 to unseeded Geoffrey Blancaneaux of France. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Penguins' captain Sidney Crosby. GETTY IMAGES

STANLEY CUP FINAL

Sid contained as Sharks bite back

Sidney Crosby, for one night at least, was kept quiet.

The Pittsburgh Penguins captain and Conn Smythe Trophy candidate was held off the scoreboard in a Game 3 loss to the San Jose Sharks on Saturday night. His line was mostly neutralized by the Sharks' top shutdown defensive pair of Marc-Edouard Vlasic and Justin Braun.

"I thought they were outstanding (Saturday) night," San Jose coach Pete DeBoer said of the duo's efforts against Crosby and Pittsburgh's top line.

> **"I thought they were outstanding.**
> San Jose Sharks' coach Pete Deboer on Braun and Vlasic

Dominant in Games 1 and 2, Crosby and linemates Conor Sheary and Patric Hornqvist generated few quality scoring chances in Game 3 and were held to a combined six shots, their lowest cumulative total of the series.

The unit was held without a shot for the first 34 minutes of the game, with Hornqvist getting the first one on net with six minutes to go in the second period.

It was home-ice advantage and the subsequent benefit of last line change which allowed the Sharks to zero in on their preferred matchup with Crosby. Vlasic and Braun were on the ice against Crosby for more than 13 minutes at even-strength in Game 3, according to War-On-Ice, a hockey analytics website. That was almost double the ice-time the pair saw against the Penguins captain in Games 1 and 2, both in Pittsburgh. THE CANADIAN PRESS

RECIPE Shrimp with Bacon and Polenta

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

We like to call this meal a back pocket dinner because you can get it on the table fast since it leans on pantry staples.

Ready in
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes

Ingredients
- 1 cup instant polenta
- 4 1/2 cups water
- 1/4 cup bacon, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 28 oz can of tomatoes
- 1 lb frozen or fresh shrimp, peeled, deveined, washed
- 1 small handful of parsley

Directions

1. Bring water to boil and slowly pour in polenta. Lower the heat and keep stirring for 3 to 5 minutes. Then take it off the heat and cover.

2. In a large pot, warm the olive oil then add bacon and garlic. Cook for a few minutes until the bacon gets brown, but not crispy. Add the tomatoes and break them up with the back of a wooden spoon or a potato masher. Simmer for about 10 minutes.

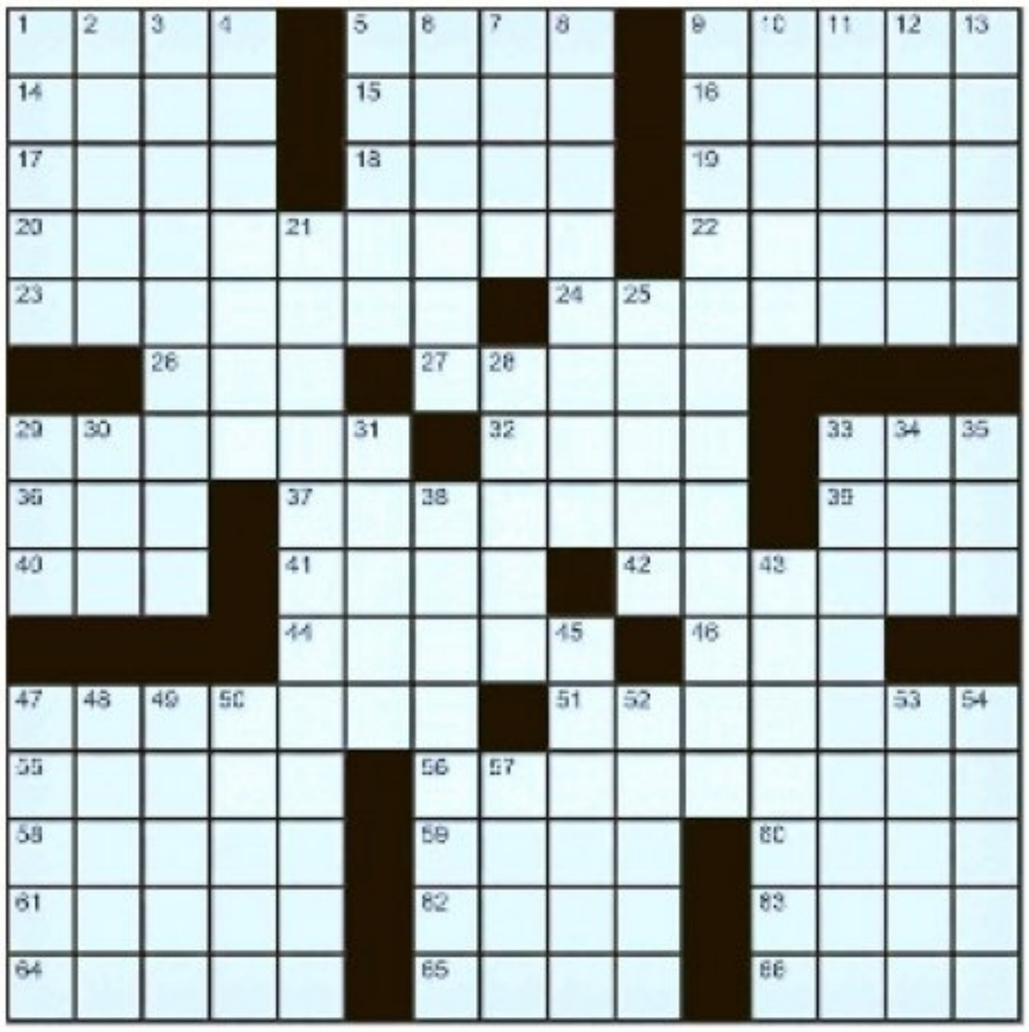
3. Toss the shrimp, with or without tails, into the tomato mixture and stir, cooking about 3 minutes, or until shrimp are cooked.

4. Give your polenta another stir and maybe even add a splash of water to loosen it. Create a nest of polenta and then ladle your sauce-y shrimp on top. Garnish with parsley.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Be boastful
5. Chicken origins
9. Super fun time
14. "Game of Thrones" actress Ms. Headey
15. Herr's wife
16. Employee's time to eat
17. Good vs. _
18. Plummet
19. Outkast member, _ 3000
20. Getting-nearer-to-the-end sports tournament round
22. Toronto's Loma, and others
23. Procrastinated
24. Vexing
26. Coffee alternative
27. Kept
29. Flowers
32. Surrealist painter Salvador
33. 'Client' ending (Patronage)
36. Rowboat paddle
37. 'A Prairie Oasis' town of southwest Saskatchewan
39. Neighbour of Swed.
40. The first American Idol ...her initials-sharers
41. Flippant
42. No sharps/No flats music scale: letter + word
44. 1966: "Walk Away _" by The Left Banke
46. 'Mountain'-meaning prefix
47. Ignore/send away
51. Wealthy
55. Up to a certain time
56. Nut variety
58. Drop the drink
59. Finishes a cake
60. Spin
61. Wedding gown fabric
62. Old shipping weight allowance
63. United, feminine in French
64. War horse
65. "Bonanza" son
66. Vintage muscle cars

DOWN
1. Sanctify
2. Strengthen, as an embankment
3. Hanna-Barbera, and others
4. Legendary astronomer who lived from 1564 to 1642
5. _ Trinket, Elizabeth Banks' role in 'Hunger Games' movies
6. Baby _ (Types of pianos)
7. Fabulous festivity
8. "The Miracle Worker" (1962) teacher, Anne _
9. A real 'jewel' of a town in Alberta: 2 wds.
10. Belonging to Rome's moon goddess
11. _ _ it goes (There you have it)
12. Buzz off!
13. Guess Who's "_ Eyes"
21. Specialty at Canadian fast food chain Harvey's, _-_ burgers
25. Excavation extraction
28. Sun-dried brick
29. _ choy (Leafy vegetable)
30. 'Lake' in Chicoutimi
31. Bargains
33. Fun-ness/delight
34. British bathroom
35. Flub
38. Craftsperson who works with light metals
43. Carpet store purchase: 2 wds.
45. Hosts an event
47. Tidies the coffee table
48. Opinion
49. Gateway to swipe a subway pass
50. _-feuille (Type of French pastry)
52. Hops-drying kilns
53. Farm song letters
54. Hills and _
57. 'Height'-meaning prefix

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
This is a lovely day to enjoy the company of siblings, neighbours and relatives. People will make an effort to engage with each other because everyone feels friendly and warmhearted.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Start this week off with clever moneymaking ideas. Business and commerce are favoured today, so you have the advantage. If shopping, you will love to buy beautiful things.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
This is a great day to buy wardrobe treasures. Go shopping for something that makes you feel great. You probably will succeed in finding something.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Solitude in beautiful surroundings will delight you today. It's a gentle day, if you can get some peace and quiet. We all need time for quiet introspection and self-reflection.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
This is a wonderful day to schmooze with others and deal with groups and organizations. You might influence someone who is artistic or creative. Or perhaps someone who is artistic will influence you.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You might develop a crush on your boss or someone in a position of authority today. Certainly, relations with authority figures will be smooth and easy today.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You long to travel for pleasure. If you can get out of town today, do so. At least visit museums, art galleries and places that inspire you.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Keep your pockets open because gifts, goodies and the wealth and assets of others can benefit you. If someone offers you something, just say, "Thank you!"

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
This is an excellent day to enlist the help of others and to work jointly with a partner or close friend. People feel very warm and loving to each other.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Expect a raise or at least praise at work today, because others are impressed with you. Don't be afraid to ask for help.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Romance, love affairs, vacations and playful times are tops on the menu for you today. This is a fun-loving, pleasant day!

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You will enjoy doing something to make your home look more attractive. This is also a good day to explore real estate possibilities.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

	5	7	9				3	4
		8	7	4		5	6	
				5		7		
			6	7	1			
		6				1		
1	7		2				9	
4							2	
	6	3	5				7	
			3	2			8	

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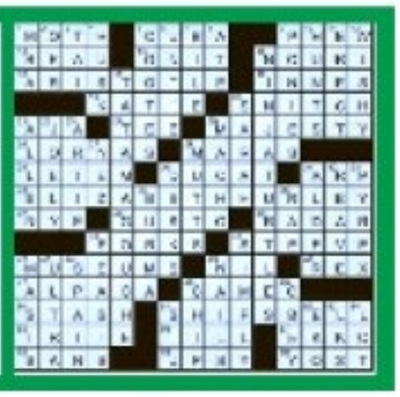
FRIDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

for more fun and games go to metronews.ca/games

9	8	3	6	5	7	1	2	4
7	4	5	1	2	9	6	3	8
2	6	1	3	4	8	7	9	5
1	2	9	8	7	5	4	6	3
5	7	8	4	3	6	9	1	2
4	3	6	2	9	1	8	5	7
3	1	7	9	8	2	5	4	6
8	9	2	5	6	4	3	7	1
6	5	4	7	1	3	2	8	9



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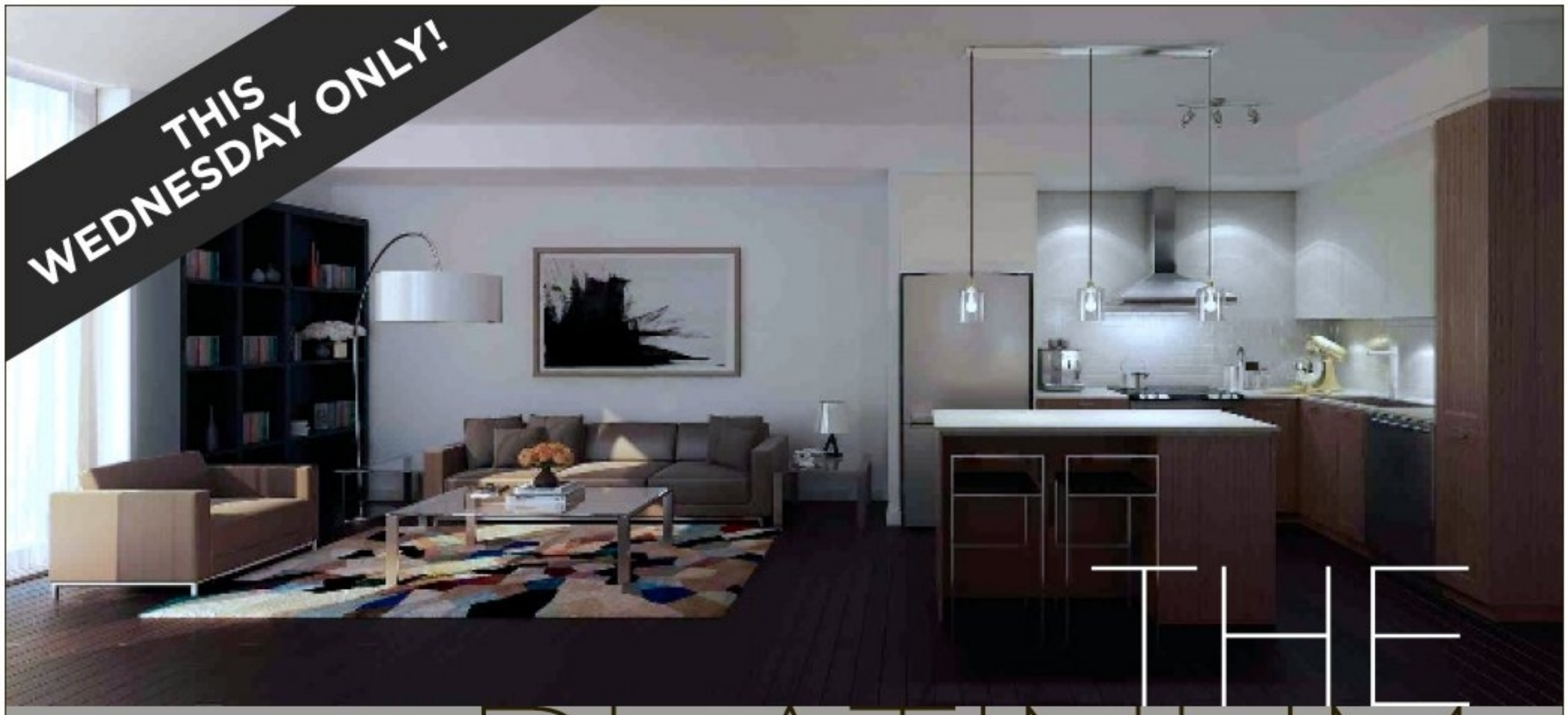

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